



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JUNE 19, 2006
MAE'MAE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

CALL TO ORDER: Six members were present, Stubbs, White, Moepono, Uehara, Thompson, and Youngquist. Chair Moepono called on HFD and HPD to give their reports until a quorum was established and the meeting could be formally called to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sesnita Moepono, Claude Uehara, Dale White, Edward Thompson, Bob Stubbs, Leonard Kam, Rachel Glanstein (appointed at this meeting), and Arvid Youngquist.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Loy Kuo, Max Fowler, Donald Nitta.

GUESTS: Debbie Kim Morikawa (Mayor's Representative), Lydia Chock (Maluhia), Capt. Dwight Souza (Honolulu Fire Department), Sgt. Gordon Costa (Honolulu Police Department), Pat Lee (Honolulu High Capacity Transit Corridor Project), Iris Oda (Board of Water Supply), Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Christopher and Lauren Oakland; Alfredo Canopin Jr. (Councilmember Rod Tam's staff); Alice and Aiko Dodge; Cade Watanabe (Local 5); Willa Donnelly, Jim Lyon, Ed Cadavoner, Joey Manahan (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

The agenda was taken out of order at this time.

EMERGENCY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES WITH ON-DUTY PERSONNEL:

Honolulu Fire Department (HFD)– Captain Souza reported the following statistics for the month of May: 8 structure fires, no brush fires, 2 rubbish fires, 2 vehicle fires, 69 medical emergencies, no search and rescue calls, and 13 miscellaneous calls.

Fire Safety Tip: Brush fire season is here, so remember to maintain a 30-foot wide clearing in between any structure and vegetation. Recent rains may have overgrown vegetation in some breaks.

With Independence Day around the corner, consider leaving fireworks to the professionals and enjoy one of the many fireworks displays around town. If you use fireworks, follow all warnings and instructions. Young children should never be given fireworks. Older children should only use fireworks under the direct supervision of an adult. Have a happy and safe Independence Day celebration!

Honolulu Police Department (HPD) – Sgt. Costa reported the following statistics for the month of May: Statistics include 0 sex offenses, 2 robbery, 12 burglary, 37 theft, 24 unauthorized entry of a motor vehicle (UEMV), 15 motor vehicle theft, 10 assault, 88 motor vehicle collision (MVC), 20 criminal property damage, 0 drug, 4 family offense, 75 argument, and 5 DUI arrests.



Questions, answers, and comments:

1. Ed Thompson reported a car in his cul-de-sac tossed rubbish, out and he had to clean it up. Thompson suggested the car may have been stolen. Rubbish thrown out contained identification, frequent flyer card and other personal items. In response to member Thompson's question what to do when you see a suspicious character in your street or neighborhood, Sgt. Costa warned residents not to confront suspects and to call 911 immediately regardless of how minor or benign an occurrence may seem.
2. Sgt. Costa also reported that HPD has sent a letter to Mr. Fujiwara, the owner of Natsonoya Tea House asking him to please advise his patrons that HPD will be enforcing the parking ordinances around the area.

The Chair thanked Sgt. Costa for his report. Member Leonard Kam arrived at 7:15 and Chair Moepono officially called the meeting to order with a quorum of seven members present.

FILLING OF TWO VACANCIES IN SUBDISTRICT 2 AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Chair Moepono announced there are two vacancies in subdistrict two. She invited the candidates interested in filling the vacancies to introduce themselves and say a few words to the Board. Rachel Glanstein introduced herself as a resident of subdistrict two. She is a parliamentarian and a former Neighborhood Assistant and currently works for the real property tax division of the City.

Younquist nominated Glanstein. Stubbs seconded. Glanstein was unanimously elected to represent subdistrict two.

Nominations and elections were conducted. The following officers were elected by unanimous consent:

Chair: Sesnita Moepono
Vice-Chair: Bob Stubbs
Secretary: Rachel Glanstein
Treasurer: Dale White

The Chair called a recess at 7:25 p.m., and the Neighborhood Assistant (NA) administered the oath of office to Rachel Glanstein. The meeting was resumed at 7:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MAY 8, 2006 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: Deferred.

RESIDENTS' CONCERNS & GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS' FORUM

OLD BUSINESS:

Update on Kuakini Extension – The State Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) is meeting with City officials regarding the Kuakini Extension Project. The City is asking for the conveyance of land needed for the extension. Senator Chun Oakland sent a

letter of support to DLNR. Member Uehara reported that City Department of Transportation Services (DTS) is proposing the installation of a stop sign on Lanakila Avenue before Keola Drive. The stop sign on Keola Drive will remain, and the Chair supported the concept saying it would help to impede traffic in the area. Member Glanstein suggested that the proposal should be reviewed further, since the addition of a second stop sign in that area may encourage people to run both stop signs as what drivers do presently on Keola Drive. Member Stubbs supported DTS' proposal of a second stop sign.

Update on Kamalii Street problems with Tea House parking – Mayor's Representative Debbie Kim Morikawa reported the following update: Major Kurt Kendro, of District V, investigated the site under complaint and sent a letter to Natsunoya Tea House to inform them of the complaints and to encourage them to discourage their patrons from parking on the unimproved sidewalk areas. He stated that there is no "policy" regarding parking on unimproved sidewalks and that officers are able to issue citations, however, there is nothing that gives them clear guidance on towing. He did note thought that it appears that cars parked on these unimproved sidewalk areas would result in an obstruction of traffic. If traffic is being obstructed, HPD has clear grounds to tow. A request has also been sent to the DTS for no parking and tow zone signage to make it easier for HPD to enforce.

1861 Kualono Street: Vector Problem – The Chair reported that there have been no updates or reports since the State Department of Health (DOH) had issued the owners a notice of violation.

Huna and Huli Streets – Road Signs: No Parking, Tow Away Request – Bob Stubbs provided background on the parking situation on Huna and Huli Streets. The signs there confuse motorists as to whether parking is allowed or not, since some signs imply that parking is allowed in certain areas. The area is a sidewalk improvement area, and therefore no parking is allowed there. DTS has refused to change the signs; to get the signs changed, DTS requires a survey, then the support of the Board. Stubbs completed the survey, and now needs Board support. All but one of the residents along Huna and Huli Streets do not want to see cars towed; only cited.

Stubbs moved, and Youngquist seconded, to support changing of the signage to just "No Parking" signs (from "No Parking – Tow Away" signs) on Huna and Huli Streets in accordance with the survey, so that cars don't get towed.

Discussion followed:

1. In response to the Chair's question regarding the type of signage being sought, Stubbs clarified that he would like 'No Parking' signs installed to replace the current 'Tow-Away Zone' signs.
2. Member Youngquist suggested that the City Department of Transportation Services (DTS) needs to study the different options they have available including a no-signage option.

3. In response to the Chair's question regarding the current signage, Stubbs replied that the current signs read 'No Parking from Here to Corner' and argues that these signs are misleading.
4. In response to Ed Cadavoner's question regarding impounding a bicycle, Sgt. Costa replied HPD, can only impound a bicycle if it is not tagged.

The motion was NOT adopted, 6-0-2 (Ayes: Thompson, Moepono, Glanstein, Kam, Stubbs, and Uehara Nays: Abs: Younquist and White).

Helicopter Flight Pattern over Neighborhood – The Coast Guard Med-E-Vac helicopter has been doing test runs over certain parts of the Board area. Chair Moepono raised concerns regarding the safety issue with emergency helicopters, coast guard or medivac, flying over the neighborhood specifically in the area over Lanakila and Judd and Kamalii and Skyline. She would like to know if flight patterns could be altered and inquired if the pilots or appropriate agencies have considered the safety issue in case of an emergency landing.

Na Pueo Park Signs – Request for Signs to Reflect Original Intent of Park Allowing Dogs – Al Canopin reported the following: 178 area residents signed a petition to support rule changes at Na Pueo and Na Pueo mini park to change park rules to allow for leashed dogs accompanied by their owners to be able to use the parks and to extend closure hours from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Canopin and area residents have submitted the petition to City officials and are hoping that the City Administration will consider the request. Canopin noted, and Senator Chun Oakland confirmed that the park was originally intended for pets. Canopin also noted that the Humane Society has the parks listed down as pet-friendly.

Questions, answers, and comments:

1. In response to member Youngquist's question regarding whether the problem was just a signage problem, an area resident noted that she was issued a citation after using the park with her dog for twenty years. Canopin stated that the park is in the Liliha Neighborhood Board district.
2. Member Stubbs inquired how the park was placed on the Humane Society's list of pet-friendly parks.

Youngquist moved and White seconded to support the petition for rule changes at Na Pueo and Na Pueo Mini Park to allow the walking of leashed dogs, and to change the parks' closure hours from 8:00 p.m. to 10 p.m. The motion carried 7-0-1. Member Glanstein abstained.

The Chair thanked Canopin for his presentation.

Kunawai Pond Surveillance – It was suggested that cameras be placed around Kunawai Pond. The main question is who would monitor these cameras. The Chair suggested that there may be groups who can monitor, but the issue needs to be explored further.

Proposed Adult Care Center – Tenrikyo Temple at 349 North Judd Street – A representative from Tenrikyo Temple reported the following: The Tenrikyo Temple is seeking a conditional use permit (CUP) from the City in order to accommodate an Adult Care Center facility.

Questions, answers, and comments:

1. In response to member Youngquist's question regarding the establishment being a faith-based organization, the representative replied that it is a for profit business and not faith-based. Clients are ambulatory and not affiliated with the church.
2. In response to Uehara's question regarding scope of work and construction, the response was the renovation work is being done to the interior of the facility. No work is being done outside.
3. In response to Senator Chun-Oakland's question regarding whether the establishment had consulted its neighbors, the representative from Tenrikyo Temple replied that letters were sent out advising them of the Neighborhood Board meeting tonight.
4. In response to member Thompson's question regarding ample parking, the response was that there is ample parking and most of the clients are dropped off.
5. In response to the Chair's question regarding the location of the entrance and exit to the facility, the entrance and exit are located on Judd Street.

Younquist moved and Stubbs seconded to support the CUP application for the Tenrikyo Temple Adult Care Center 349 North Judd Street as the concept was presented to the Board. The motion carried unanimously.

The Chair thanked Tenrikyo Temple for the presentation.

Iholena Street Parking Concerns – Member Glanstein pointed out the unfairness that property owners are required to maintain the unimproved sidewalk areas fronting their properties, and yet, they are not allowed to park on them.

OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES:

Board of Water Supply (BWS) – Iris Oda reported the following:

1. There was one main break for the month of May. It occurred at 1635 Kaikuahine Street, and is an eight-inch cast iron main. As the useful lifespan of our current water mains ends, BWS is spending millions of dollars to replace them to insure reliable water service and help prevent main breaks. This is just one of the many ways we continue to be the stewards of Oahu's precious water.

2. BWS wants to let you know that you can be a part of the conservation effort by starting in your own backyard! In a partnership, the Board of Water Supply, U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS); the Hawaii State Department of Transportation, Department of Land and Natural Resources' Division of Forestry and Wildlife, and the University of Hawaii; the City & County of Honolulu's Environmental Service Department and the Big Island and Oahu Resource Conservation & Development Councils have created the Hawaii Backyard Conservation Handbook.
3. The 20-page color pamphlet has a wealth of knowledge for you to use in your home, including grassroots conservation methods like composting and how to utilize native plants and xeriscaping in your yard layout. Information about managing pests and weed control is also included, as well as how to practice day to day best management practices and managing nutrients in the soil. Looking through it, you will be amazed at how many small things you can do to help be more "eco-friendly" as you go through your everyday life. If you would like more pamphlets, you can come down to the Board of Water Supply, or call the NRCS office (483-8600 ext. 3).
4. Washing one car can use up to 150 gallons or more of water! Use of a trigger nozzle can save 100 gallons of water, almost ten small fish tanks!

The Chair thanked Oda for her report.

Councilmember Rod Tam – Claude Uehara noted that the City Council passed the budget on June 7, 2006.

Mayor's Representative – Debbie Kim Morikawa distributed the Mayor's newsletter and gave updates on the Mayor's real property tax relief efforts, transit tax initiatives, and the Mayor's Chinatown Summit. She noted that Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) supported by the administration are those that would deliver core city services to Oahu residents. Morikawa highlighted the following: (1) The City Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) and the City Department of Facilities and Maintenance (DFM) are currently investigating the procedure to address this complaint. There are apparently different procedures for repairing asphalt versus concrete walkways. (2) DTS will investigate and report back on the no parking sign on Maukanani Street and the criteria for the installation of no parking signs and cross walks.

Questions, answers, and comments:

1. Member Dale White reported that work has begun to fill potholes on the corner of Hala and Judd Streets and along Lolena Street however the area by the Natsunoya Tea House especially by Kula Street needs to be addressed.
2. Member Youngquist reported a strong scent of urine all over the downtown area and was wondering if there would be clean up efforts and/or comfort stations installed to alleviate the problem. Morikawa noted that sanitation is one of the issues being addressed at the Mayor's Chinatown summit. In response to

Member Youngquist's question regarding registration, Morikawa replied it is possible to extend and suggested Arvid contact the organizers.

3. Member Uehara requested a breakdown of the CIP budget.

The Chair thanked Morikawa for her report.

Hawaii High Capacity Corridor Project – Pat Lee reported the following: The Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project is studying how to improve the ability of people to move in the highly congested east-west corridor between Kapolei and the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Over sixty percent of Oahu's population currently lives within the area served by this corridor. This area is projected to continue to grow faster than the rest of Oahu.

A wide range of options for improving travel throughout the corridor are being evaluated against many criteria, including shortening travel times, project costs, environmental impacts, ease of implementation, support of the City and County of Honolulu's long-range land use plans, and community benefits.

The planning and project development process for the Honolulu High-Capacity Transit Corridor Project is based in part on requirements by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration (FTA), because FTA funds will be used for this project. The project is currently in the planning phase. The purpose of this phase is to select a "Locally Preferred Alternative " (LPA) and complete a draft environmental impact statement (EIS). After this phase is completed, the City will request approval from FTA to begin the preliminary engineering phase on the LPA. Lee presented timelines and visuals, which included artist renderings of the proposed alternatives.

Lee announced that there will be a series of scooping meetings at Kapolei Hale, Honolulu Hale, and Aliamanu Middle School and encouraged the public to attend.

Questions, answers, and comments:

1. In response to member White's question regarding traffic studies taking into consideration the increase in traffic during the school year, Lee replied that thousands of new homes are projected to be built in the Ewa region, which will result in the need for an LPA by the year 2030.
2. Member Youngquist raised a question regarding elections and the City Council's reorganization and how that will affect the collection of the dedicated transit tax. Lee responded that he is hopeful that these issues will be worked out.

The Chair thanked Lee for his presentation.

Governor's Representative – No representative was present.

Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland – Senator Chun-Oakland distributed her written report, and submitted her comments to Chair Moepono who highlighted the following: (1) Lanakila School has started whole classroom renovation work. (2) The City has approved the installation of a

pedestrian activated signal. She expressed thanks to the people (over 1000) who signed the petition from the church and school. (3) A list of public schools and restoration of funding to offset the impact of the weighted student formula is in the written report. (4) There is information on the establishment of an underage drinking hotline. (5) The federal government has passed a law requiring Medicaid recipients to show proof of citizenship. There is a meeting scheduled on June 27, 2006 from 10-11:30 a.m. at YWCA on Richards Street. There is a concern about how it may have negative impact on people's access to health insurance. Please attend if you are interested.

Representative Corinne Ching – No representative was present.

Representative Dennis Arakaki – No representative was present.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:

Convalescent Center – A representative was not present.

Kuakini Medical Center – A representative was not present.

Lanakila Rehabilitation Center – A representative was not present.

Maluhia/Leahi Hospital – Lillian Chock was present and available for questions.

NEW BUSINESS

HAWAII'S HOTEL WORKERS RISING LOCAL 5 – Cade Watanabe, Community and Political Organizer from Hawaii's Local 5 reported the following: Local 5 is a local union with more than 11,000 members, 60% of which are Filipino. They contribute and belong to our local communities. They are our family, friends and neighbors, and Kalihi is one community where many of our members make their homes. On June 30th of this year, the hotel contracts for more than 6,500 union workers in nine of Waikiki's largest hotels expire.

Tourism is Hawaii's largest and most profitable industry. Last year the industry brought in more than \$3 billion in revenue. Our members are asking for protection of their workplace and union rights, and the ability to grow with respect to the growth of the industry here in Hawaii.

Hotel workers deserve to be treated with dignity and respect. Hotels are no longer local. They are national and in many instances international. Hawaii Hotel Workers Rising is about securing Hawaii's future, and Local 5's participation in this national campaign is an attempt to respond to the emergence of global corporations that have entered our local markets.

While hotel corporations have reaped the financial benefits of hotel consolidations, our members, their lifestyles and our State have had to make sacrifices that threaten to change Hawaii's unique and local tourism industry forever.

Hotel workers are an invaluable resource to our local economy, and are extraordinary ambassadors of "Aloha." It is they that truly make Hawaii an exceptional place to visit, and it is they who contribute to our local communities by sending their children to our public schools,

filling the pews of our local churches, and bringing to our local communities the cultural nuances that make Hawaii, Hawaii, not the hotel corporations.

Local 5 members are serious about settling a fair contract, and eager to engage in meaningful discussions on the future of Hawaii's middle-class. Its members are interested in one America. The corporations seem interested in preserving two, one rich, the other poor.

Hotel workers are the backbone of Hawaii's hotel industry and recognize that the presence of a strong middle-class here in Hawaii can be achieved through the promotion of good paying hotel jobs and strengthened through and by the growth of union membership.

The issue now is whether the hotel industry is going to do the right thing and support their workers in their drive for good hotel jobs for a good Hawaii. Hotel corporations have a national campaign to isolate each local union across the country, and have attacked our participation in the national Hotel Workers Rising Campaign. Yet, it is Local 5 that is the local entity in this equation and it is Local 5 and its local members that know what's best for our state.

Our members see that they can no longer stand alone, and that is why we are reaching out to the community for support and participating in Hotel Workers Rising. Only when secure jobs become the standard for the hotel industry, can Hawaii residents be comfortable in earning a sufficient livelihood that will support a family in a place where the cost of living is amongst the highest in the nation.

The Chair thanked Watanabe for his presentation.

BOARD BUSINESS:

CHAIR'S REPORT: No report was given at this time.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer White reported the following: (1) The current balance in the operating account is \$1108. (2) The current balance in the publicity account is \$1359. (3) The current refreshment account balance is negative \$4.53.

OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Without objections, Chair Moepono adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m.
Submitted by:

Joey Manahan
Neighborhood Assistant